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JESUS SALINAS

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MARIA GUADALUPE VALENZUELA,
PATRICIA DELATORRE,
JESUS SALINAS,

Defendants.

No. CR-12-00887 EJD

**DEFENDANT SALINAS' (1) MOTION
TO PRECLUDE PROSECUTION BASED
ON THEORY AND FACTS NOT ALLEGED
IN INDICTMENT; (2) MOTION TO
DISMISS INDICTMENT ON GROUNDS OF
ABANDONMENT AND FAILURE TO
STATE AN OFFENSE**

Honorable Edward J. Davila

Date: July 7, 2014

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Jury Selection: August 18, 2014

Trial Date: August 19, 2014

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO: ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DANIEL KALEBA AND THE CLERK OF
THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 7, 2014, at 3:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the
matter may be heard, in the courtroom of the Honorable Edward J. Davila, defendant Jesus Salinas
("Mr. Salinas") will move the Court to preclude the government from relying on theories of
prosecution and supporting facts that were not presented to the grand jury and are not set forth in the

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1 Indictment. Additionally, Mr. Salinas moves to dismiss the indictment because the government has
 2 abandoned the theory of prosecution set forth in the Indictment, and on grounds that the Indictment
 3 fails to state an offense under Fed. R. Crim. P. 12(b)(3)(B).

4 This motion is based on the instant Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Federal
 5 Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Fifth Amendment, the Constitution of the United States, and on
 6 such evidence and argument as will be presented at the hearing.

7 I.

8 INTRODUCTION

9 Only three months before trial, the government has developed two new, mutually
 10 inconsistent theories of prosecution based on new factual allegations, with newly named individuals
 11 who may or may not play central roles (depending on which version of the theory the government
 12 decides to adopt), despite the fact that none of this was either presented to the grand jury, or set forth
 13 in the Indictment. The new theories are predicated on a series of financial transactions involving a
 14 purportedly “usurious loan” made to Sarani Hernandez by two individuals who are not named in the
 15 Indictment, Graciela Albor Martinez, and Maria Martinez Ramirez. See Gov. Opp. to Rule 15
 16 Depositions at 4. In addition, these new theories of criminal liability appear intended to shift the
 17 time frame of the alleged criminal conduct to a starting date in July 2011, rather than the starting
 18 date of June 2011, that was alleged in the Indictment, although the government more recently
 19 backtracked on that point after Mr. Salinas identified the timing issue. See Gov. Opp. to Bill of
 20 Particulars at 5.

21 The government’s new theories of prosecution, and outlines of some of its inconsistent
 22 supporting factual allegations, are set forth in two opposition briefs that the government recently
 23 filed. See Gov. Opp. to Rule 15 Depositions, Docket #82, at 4-5; Gov. Opp. to Mot. for Bill of
 24 Particulars at 2-7, Docket #87. For the Court’s convenience, copies of these documents will be
 25 submitted herewith, along with a copy of the Indictment setting forth the government’s original,
 26 now-abandoned theory.

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1
2 The government's new theories of prosecution would require impermissible constructive
3 amendment of the Indictment, in violation of the Fifth Amendment. The government's efforts to
4 shift (1) the time frame of the alleged conspiracy; (2) its legal basis; (3) its factual predicate; and (4)
5 the identities of the individuals involved, must be rejected as violative of the Fifth Amendment's
6 requirement of grand jury indictment, because no aspect of these new theories has been subjected to
7 any probable cause determination by a grand jury, and the admission of the supporting evidence at
8 trial would require reversal. See United States v. Adamson, 291 F.3d 606, 615 (9th Cir. 2002).

9 Accordingly, pursuant to Mr. Salinas' Fifth Amendment to be tried solely on charges that
10 have been returned by a grand jury, the Court must preclude the government from proceeding on a
11 theory or theories of prosecution that were neither presented to the grand jury nor set forth in the
12 Indictment, and must preclude the government from offering evidence regarding loan negotiations,
13 loan transactions, loan repayments, and interest payments, involving conduct and individuals who
14 were not identified in the Indictment. The Court should also dismiss the Indictment on grounds of
15 implied abandonment by the government, and failure to state an offense.

16 II.

17 ARGUMENT

18 A. The Government Must Not Be Permitted to Rely on New Theories of Prosecution That 19 Have Not Been Presented to the Grand Jury

20 The Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution requires that "no person shall be held
21 to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a
22 Grand Jury." U.S. Const. Amend. V. As the Supreme Court has explained, "a court cannot permit
23 a defendant to be tried on charges that are not made in the indictment against him." United States v.
24 Stirone, 361 U.S. 212, 217 (1960). Pursuant to the Fifth Amendment, a defendant has a "right to
25 have the grand jury make the charge on its own judgment." Id. at 218–19. A defendant's
26 entitlement to be charged by the grand jury in an indictment also serves additional purposes,

1 including (1) requiring the prosecutor to establish probable cause to the satisfaction of a group of
 2 unbiased men and women, (2) enabling the accused to prepare a defense by giving notice of the
 3 precise conduct alleged, and (3) protecting against another prosecution for the same offense. See
 4 Gaither v. United States, 413 F.2d 1061, 1066 (D.C.Cir. 1969).

5 Constructive amendment of an indictment at trial is reversible error, and occurs where “(1)
 6 there is a complex of facts presented at trial distinctly different from those set forth in the charging
 7 instrument, or (2) the crime charged in the indictment was substantially altered at trial, so that it was
 8 impossible to know whether the grand jury would have indicted for the crime actually proved.”
 9 United States v. Adamson, 291 F.3d 606, 615 (9th Cir. 2002) (internal brackets and quotation marks
 10 omitted).

11 Here, both grounds for constructive amendment identified in Adamson would occur at trial,
 12 because the government now intends to present a complex of facts at trial that are distinctly different
 13 from those in the Indictment, and because the government’s theory or theories of the crime will be
 14 substantially altered at trial, so that it will be impossible to know whether the grand jury would have
 15 indicted for whatever criminal theory on which the petite jury might convict. See id. This concern
 16 has arisen because the government, in recent briefing in this Court and in Magistrate Court in
 17 response to defense motions, has indicated its intent to proceed on a theory of prosecution that is
 18 significantly different from that set forth in the Indictment. See Gov. Opp. to Def. Mot. for Foreign
 19 Depositions, Docket #82, at 3-4; Gov. Opp. to Bill of Particulars, Docket #87, at 2-9. The
 20 government’s briefing makes clear that the government’s view of certain facts, as well as its entire
 21 theory of criminal liability, has changed significantly from the facts and theories set forth in the
 22 Indictment, to the point that the government now intends to base its theory of criminal liability on
 23 certain financial transactions and the actions of third parties that are not even mentioned in the
 24 Indictment.

25 However, “the Government cannot usurp the role of the grand jury by advancing new,
 26 unalleged theories . . . in its briefs in an effort to save the Indictments.” United States v. Alkaabi,

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223 F.Supp.2d 583, 589 (D.N.J. 2002) (citing United States v. Henry, 29 F.3d 112, 114 (3d Cir. 1994) (rejecting property theories that were not alleged in Indictment for mail fraud) and United States v. Zauber, 857 F.2d 137, 1434 (3d Cir. 1988) (rejecting “goodwill” theory of property that was not alleged in Indictments for mail and wire fraud)). Accordingly, this Court must preclude the government from proceeding on any uncharged theory of criminal liability, and any supporting facts that were not presented to the grand jury.

With respect to the facts, the government now appears to agree with the defense that certain allegations in the Indictment were either misleading, incorrect, or failed to support the charged offenses. For example, the government now concedes that after Ms. Hernandez asked Mr. Salinas and Ms. Delatorre to transport the children to the U.S., and they attempted to do so, but were stopped at the border. See Gov. Opp. to Def. Mot. for Foreign Depositions, Docket #82, at 3-4. The government still contends that Ms. Hernandez did not thereafter consent to the placement of the children with Ms. Valenzuela, but appears to recognize that there is significant evidence to the contrary.

As outlined in Mr. Salinas’ pending Motion for Bill of Particulars, the Indictment returned by the grand jury is predicated on a completely different legal and factual theory. See United States v. Valenzuela et al., No. CR 12-00887 EJD, Docket #64; Def. Mot for Bill of Particulars. First, the Indictment alleges that the criminal conspiracy began in June 2011 when Mr. Salinas and Ms. Delatorre retrieved the children in Michoacan. See Indictment ¶¶6, 28. This is factually impossible, however, because Ms. Hernandez had given money to Mr. Salinas and Ms. Delatorre to get the children in Michoacan and try to bring them across the border.

Second, the Indictment alleges that the charged kidnapping and hostage-taking offenses were carried out through ongoing demands by the defendants for money from Ms. Hernandez (which Mr. Salinas will refer to as “Theory #1”). See Indictment at 3-4. But the defense has agreed that as a factual matter, one or more of the defendants did make requests money from Ms. Hernandez for the upkeep of the children, although it was not for any criminal purpose. Thus, while the Indictment

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1 was predicated on a theory of criminal liability arising from requests for money, this hardly
 2 demonstrates the existence of a criminal conspiracy when the money was intended for the upkeep of
 3 minors who the defense contends had been abandoned by their mother.

4 By contrast, the government's new theory of prosecution is predicated on a "usurious loan"
 5 that Sarani Hernandez purportedly agreed to pay in July, 2011, after the children were not able to
 6 cross the border. Gov. Opp. to Rule 15 Depositions at 4-5. The government's new theory is that
 7 Ms. Hernandez was "extorted" through "interest payments" that Ms. Hernandez made on this
 8 allegedly "usurious loan." See id. at 3-4. But it is fatal to the government's new theory that the
 9 Indictment never mentions any allegedly usurious loan, nor does it name any individuals allegedly
 10 involved in brokering or extending this loan.

11 Moreover, although trial is presently only three months away, the government has not even
 12 settled on a response to the essential questions of who brokered this loan, who set the interest rate,
 13 and who received the payments. On these issues, the government has advanced two competing
 14 theories.

15 The new theory (which Mr. Salinas will refer to as "Theory #2") set forth in the
 16 government's opposition to the Rule 15 depositions alleged that Mr. Salinas told Ms. Hernandez that
 17 he needed more money for the border crossing, allegedly without telling her that they had tried and
 18 failed to cross the border.¹ The government then states: "His aunt was only too happy to help out a
 19 person in need, and his aunt would 'loan' the mother the sum of \$2,500 at the reasonable interest
 20 payment of \$375 per month, or an annual interest rate of 180%." Gov. Opp. to Rule 15 Depositions
 21 at 4:7-9. The government goes on to say that documentation regarding this loan is found in records
 22 obtained from Mr. Salinas' aunt, Graciela Albor Martinez, and her mother, Maria Martinez Ramirez,
 23 who the government describes as the "conduit for the transaction." Id. at 4:12-15.

24
 25 ¹ As the Court may recognize from earlier briefing, Ms. Hernandez has a poor track record
 26 for honesty and full disclosure, so any assertion she has made must be taken with a large grain of
 salt.

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2 In response to Theory #2, Mr. Salinas pointed out in his written reply that the government's
3 summary offered nary a hint regarding how it might try to prove Mr. Salinas' involvement, if at all,
4 in the "usurious loan." See Salinas Reply Re: Rule 15 Depositions, Docket #84, at 12. Mr. Salinas
5 also noted that neither Ms. Albor nor Ms. Ramirez, the alleged "conduit," were charged in the
6 Indictment. Id. Moreover, the government did not even contend in its factual summary that any
7 charged defendant had a role in either arranging the loan, in accepting payments, or in
8 communicating with Ms. Hernandez about the balance due on the loan. Id. For example, the
9 government's vague summary stated that after Ms. Hernandez thought she had repaid the loan by
10 making payments to an unidentified person, she was told by an unidentified person that her
11 payments had only covered the interest. See Gov. Opp. to Rule 15 Depositions at 5 ("In April, 2012,
12 after she thought she had repaid the usurious loan, she was told that the \$375 only covered the
13 interest payments, and the principle remained unpaid."). Who made these statements, and who
14 received the payments?

15 After Mr. Salinas identified these deficiencies, the government invented yet a third version of
16 events, "Theory #3," which it has now presented in its opposition to a bill of particulars. In
17 response to Mr. Salinas' criticisms of the government's theory in the Rule 15 opposition, the
18 government modified its factual allegation regarding who extended the alleged usurious loan to state
19 that "The codefendants arranged for a loan, in the amount of \$2,500, funded by Salinas' aunt, to pay
20 for the children's crossing. The interest rate on this "loan" was \$375 per month, an annual rate of
21 180 percent." Gov. Opp. to Bill of Particulars at 4:16-18. Thus, in contrast to Theory #2, in which
22 the aunt arranged the loan, according to Theory #3 the defendants arranged the loan. Compare Gov.
23 Opp. to Rule 15 Depositions at 4:7-9 (loan arranged by "aunt") with Gov. Opp. to Bill of Particulars
24 at 4:16-18 (loan arranged by "codefendants"). But even under Theory #3, the government does not
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26

1 say which of the codefendants allegedly participated in arranging this loan.²

2 Mr. Salinas is now left with central questions raised by the government's late-breaking and
3 multiple changes in theory, including: Who communicated with Ms. Hernandez about this loan? Is
4 the allegedly usurious loan relevant to the kidnapping charge, or the hostage-taking charge, or both?
5 Does the government believe that these two women were co-conspirators with Mr. Salinas, Ms.
6 Delatorre, and/or Ms. Valenzuela? Does the government believe that these women were carrying
7 out a different conspiracy that somehow indirectly benefitted Mr. Salinas? The government's
8 factual summary does not say. Does the government believe that Mr. Salinas had knowledge of the
9 "usurious loan"? If so, what is the proof? The government now flatly that "the codefendants"
10 (presumably including Mr. Salinas) must have had some role in the loan, because the women are
11 related to him, but the government surely realizes that these women are also related to Sarani
12 Hernandez, so the mere familial relationship means nothing.

13 The government's late-breaking shift in theories opens significant new avenues of
14 investigation and litigation only three months before trial, after this case has been pending for more
15 than a year.

16 The requirement of grand jury indictment serves an important notice function for a
17 defendant. The government should not be permitted to pursue these alternate, inconsistent theories
18 at trial, or any evidence related to them, unless the government returns to the grand jury and obtains

19 ² The government relies on this new allegation regarding extension of a usurious loan to
20 amend a significant factual allegation in the Indictment – namely, the start date of Mr. Salinas'
21 participation in the alleged conspiracy, stating "no later than the time of the July 7, 2011 loan,
22 Salinas was a member of this conspiracy." *Id.* at 5. However, the government has not stated that
23 Mr. Salinas himself was involved in the loan in any way.

24 The government also alleges in the alternative that "sufficient facts exist in the record
25 supporting a much earlier date" for Mr. Salinas' participation in the alleged conspiracy. *Id.* But
26 what are those facts? In yet another amendment to the Indictment, the government now contends
that while Mr. Salinas tried and failed to cross the children, the attempted crossing was not done "in
good faith" because, according to the government, they declined to participate in secondary
inspection. Gov. Opp. to Bill of Particulars at 5:9-12. Is this amendment to the Indictment the
government's sole support for its argument that the conspiracy started in June 2011, or are there
other facts that Mr. Salinas must be prepared to meet at trial?

1 an Indictment predicated on these theories. The Indictment must set forth the pertinent facts in
 2 sufficient detail that Mr. Salinas may be adequately apprised of the charges against him, and will
 3 understand the factual allegations that he needs to investigate. And Mr. Salinas must have sufficient
 4 time to conduct necessary investigation and preparation regarding the new theories and factual
 5 allegations.

6 As Mr. Salinas argued in the motion for bill of particulars, the Indictment reflects a
 7 fundamental lack of understanding of the facts in this case, owing perhaps to the government's
 8 fundamental bias in favor of Ms. Hernandez's view of the facts. The defense understands why the
 9 government may wish to shore up its case, given the myriad deficiencies identified by the defense in
 10 its pending motions. But the government's effort to proceed without first obtaining a new
 11 Indictment must be must be rejected as violative of the Fifth Amendment, because no aspect of this
 12 new theory has been subjected to any probable cause determination by a grand jury, and admission
 13 of the supporting evidence at trial would require reversal. Adamson, 291 F.3d at 615.

14 The government's attempts to modify (1) its theory of prosecution, (2) the time frame of the
 15 alleged criminal conduct, (3) the predicate acts supporting the alleged crime, and (4) the identities
 16 of the individuals involved, are even more pronounced here than in numerous cases in which
 17 constructive amendment was found to require reversal. For example, in United v. Choy, 309 F.3d
 18 602, 607 (9th Cir. 2002), the Ninth Circuit reversed the defendant's bribery conviction due to
 19 constructive amendment based on a shift in the government's theory, where the "grand jury indicted
 20 Choy for giving 'a thing of value (to wit, \$5,000)' to a public official [but] Choy was convicted . . .
 21 on the theory that giving the \$5,000 to a private individual indirectly conferred value—the
 22 opportunity to receive bribes in the future." Thus, the mere shift in emphasis from an indirect
 23 benefit to a direct benefit was sufficient to constitute constructive amendment. Similarly, in Jeffers
 24 v. United States, 392 F.2d 749, 751–52 (9th Cir. 1968), the Ninth Circuit found an impermissible
 25 variance where the indictment charged that donations to a religious group were used for
 26 non-religious purposes, but the evidence showed only that the money was used in a manner contrary

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1 to representations made at the time of collection. The government's intended shift in theory and
2 facts here is far more egregious than the circumstances that required reversal in Choy and Jeffers.

3 The government's attempt to shift the focus of its case to different behavior carried out by
4 different individuals who were not named in the indictment is also more glaring than in prior cases
5 requiring reversal. For example, in Howard v. Dagget, 526 F.2d 1388, 1390 (9th Cir. 1975), the
6 Ninth Circuit reversed a conviction for travel in aid of prostitution due to constructive amendment of
7 indictment where the district court admitted evidence regarding alleged prostitutes who were not
8 named in the indictment, because the reference to additional individuals "allow[ed] the jury to
9 convict of a charge not brought by the grand jury."

10 The government's approach, if permitted, would violate all the purposes that a grand jury
11 indictment is designed to serve: first, this theory was not presented to a group of unbiased men and
12 women; second, the absence of this theory in the indictment has limited Mr. Salinas' ability to
13 investigate and prepare to meet the new theory at trial; and third, the failure of the indictment to
14 outline this theory means that he could be prosecuted in the future on a wire fraud or usurious loan
15 charge even if acquitted in this case, and could even be prosecuted on a kidnapping and hostage-
16 taking charge predicated on a different theory of liability, in violation of Mr. Salinas' right not to be
17 placed twice in jeopardy. See Gaither, 413 F.2d at 1066.

18 Moreover, as outlined in Mr. Salinas' separately filed status update to the Court, the
19 government's reliance on this late-breaking new theory has in turn resulted the recent disclosure of
20 voluminous additional materials. Indeed, the government's factual summaries identify some
21 allegations that are apparently drawn from this new discovery. The new discovery, which includes
22 phone records, bank records, witness statements, call transcripts, and numerous other types of
23 documents, will take time to review, and the limited review that the defense has conducted thus far
24 has already revealed significant new paths for investigation. Mr. Salinas has not had sufficient
25 notice or time to review any of this material. If the allegations about the usurious loan, and the
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1 participants to that transaction, had been set forth in the Indictment, then Mr. Salinas would have
2 been on notice, and would have received corresponding discovery over a year ago.

3 Mr. Salinas has been concerned throughout this case regarding the risk of trial by ambush,
4 given the significant disconnect between the gravity of the charges and the limited facts known to
5 Mr. Salinas. See United States v. Valenzuela et al., No. CR 12-00887 EJD, Docket #64, Def. Mot
6 for Bill of Particulars, at 2. It appears that Mr. Salinas' concern was well-founded. The Fifth
7 Amendment's requirement of grand jury indictment is one of the many protective measures set forth
8 in the Constitution to prevent precisely this sort of gamesmanship and oppressive conduct by the
9 government, and the Court should not permit it.

10 **B. The Indictment Should be Dismissed on Grounds of Abandonment and Failure to State**
11 **an Offense**

12 The Sixth Amendment requires that a defendant "be informed of the nature and cause of the
13 accusation." U.S. Const. amend. VI. Pursuant to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, an
14 indictment "shall be a plain, concise and definite written statement of the essential facts constituting
15 the offense charged." Fed.R.Crim.P. 7(c)(1).

16 A defendant may make a pre-trial motion to dismiss the indictment on grounds that it fails to
17 charge an offense. Fed.R.Crim.P. 12(b)(2), 12(b)(3)(B). If an issue raised in a pretrial motion is
18 entirely segregable from the evidence to be presented at trial, the motion must be decided before
19 trial. See United States v. Shortt Accountancy Corp., 785 F.2d 1448, 1452 (9th Cir. 1986).

20 An indictment is sufficient to withstand a motion to dismiss if it contains the elements of the
21 charged offense in sufficient detail (1) to enable the defendant to prepare his defense; (2) to ensure
22 him that he is being prosecuted on the basis of facts presented to the grand jury; (3) to enable him to
23 plead double jeopardy; and (4) to inform the court of the alleged facts so that it can determine the
24 sufficiency of the charge. United States v. Bernhardt, 840 F.2d 1441, 1445 (9th Cir. 1988); see also
25 Russell v. United States, 369 U.S. 749, 768-71 (1962).
26

1 A defendant's essential right to be prosecuted on the facts presented to the grand jury and
 2 alleged in the indictment was addressed at length by the Supreme Court in Russell v. United States,
 3 369 U.S. 749, 768 (1962). In that case, the defendant was indicted for refusing to answer a question
 4 at a congressional hearing, but the indictment did not identify the question he failed to answer. The
 5 Supreme Court held that the indictment's failure to identify the pertinent facts impermissibly
 6 allowed the government to change its theory at will:

7 At every stage in the ensuing criminal proceeding Price was met with a different theory, or
 8 by no theory at all, as to what the topic had been. Far from informing Price of the nature of
 9 the accusation against him, the indictment instead left the prosecution free to roam at large-to
 shift its theory of criminality so as to take advantage of each passing vicissitude of the trial
 and appeal.

10 Id.

11 Here, the indictment contains only one theory of liability – that the three named defendants
 12 extorted Ms. Hernandez by making repeated demands for money while refusing to provide
 13 information regarding her children. See Indictment at 2-5. Mr. Salinas has vigorously disputed this
 14 theory on both legal and factual grounds, and the government's implied abandonment of the indicted
 15 theory in favor of the uncharged "usurious loan" theory is grounds for dismissal of the indictment,
 16 because he is not being prosecuted on the basis of facts presented to the grand jury. Instead, as in
 17 Russell, the government is now "roam[ing] at large-to shift its theory of criminality so as to take
 18 advantage of each passing vicissitude." See Russell, 369 U.S. at 768. Moreover, unless the
 19 indictment is dismissed and a new indictment is obtained, Mr. Salinas will not be sufficiently
 20 apprised regarding the theory that the government intends to pursue at trial, and he will not be able
 21 to plead once in jeopardy as to any uncharged theory in the event of a mistrial or dismissal. See
 22 Bernhardt, 840 F.2d at 1445.

23 One district court in the Eastern District of California recently dismissed counts in an
 24 indictment after noting similar conduct by the government in continually shifting its theory of
 25 prosecution. See United States v. Jack, 2010 WL 4718613 (E.D. Cal. 2010). In Jack, the defendants
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1 were charged with, *inter alia*, conspiracy to overthrow the government in Laos. In a pretrial motion,
 2 the defendants argued that several of the counts should be dismissed because the indictment failed to
 3 state an offense under the charged statutes. As relevant here, the defendants moved to dismiss Count
 4 Two, which alleged a violation of the Neutrality Act (the “Act”), 18 U.S.C. § 960, on the theory that
 5 the defendants intended to carry on “a military expedition or enterprise . . . from the United States.”
 6 Id. at *5. In reviewing the government’s shifting theories, the district court found that “the nature of
 7 the military enterprise or expedition alleged is unclear” because of “the government’s changing
 8 depiction of the leadership and composition of the alleged military enterprise” in successive filings.
 9 Id. at 8. The district court granted the motion to dismiss Count Two, finding that the indictment
 10 failed “to put each defendant on notice of the nature of charges against him in order to allow him to
 11 prepare a defense or to ensure he is being prosecuted on the basis of the facts presented to the grand
 12 jury.” Id. at *7.

13 The Jack court also found the indictment factually insufficient, because the indictment
 14 “fail[ed] to apprise each defendant of the specific conduct he engaged in that allegedly violates the
 15 Act.” Id. As a result, the court found that “the individual defendants are unable to either prepare a
 16 defense or ensure that they are being prosecuted on the basis of the facts presented to the grand
 17 jury.” Id. at 9. While not the subject of the motion, the court noted that it was “troubled that at each
 18 appearance before it, the government has time after time asserted a different hierarchy of the military
 19 enterprise and the evolving theory of its operation.” Id. at 8 n.10.

20 Here, as in Jack, the government’s continually shifting theories have only added to the
 21 ambiguity regarding the charged theory and the relevant facts. Id. at 9 (noting “ambiguity” arising
 22 from deficient indictment and government’s shifting theories). Additionally, as a result of the
 23 government’s extra-judicial efforts to amend the deficient indictment, Mr. Salinas is now facing trial
 24 on the basis of new facts that were not presented to the grand jury. See id.

1 The government's abandonment of a prosecution theory set forth in the indictment is grounds
 2 for dismissal of the indictment prior to trial under Fed. R. Crim. P. 12(b)(2) and (b)(3). United
 3 States v. Volpe, 863 F.Supp. 1120 (N.D. Cal. 1994), vacated on stipulation of the parties at 943
 4 F.Supp 1211 (N.D. Cal. 1996) (citing Bernhardt). In Volpe, for example, the district court found
 5 that "the government has impermissibly changed the factual basis for the conclusion already reached
 6 by the grand jury." Id. at 1125. Accordingly, because there was "no assurance that the grand jury
 7 indicted on the same facts on which Volpe is now being prosecuted," and because "[a] bill of
 8 particulars cannot cure this problem," the court dismissed the indictment.³

9 Moreover, if the case goes to trial without dismissal and reindictment, Mr. Salinas will not be
 10 able to plead once in jeopardy as to any uncharged theory. As the Tenth Circuit has noted, "once the
 11 government abandons a theory by failing to present any evidence related to the theory, the
 12 government cannot seek to retry a defendant on the abandoned theory." United States v. Hoeffner,
 13 626 F.3d 857, 869 (5th Cir. 2010). However, this rationale would not apply to an uncharged theory,
 14 because Mr. Salinas would not be able to establish that the theory had been previously alleged before
 15 the grand jury. Cf. United States v. Gray, 705 F. Supp. 1224, 1232-33 (E.D. Ky. 1988) ("[After] the
 16 prosecution's failure to present a particular [indicted] theory to the jury, the government should not
 17 be given a second bite at the apple. . . . [A]lthough the traditional and Klein theories were
 18 technically presented to the jury by the trial court's quotation of a portion of the indictment, these
 19 theories were in reality not presented to the jury and a retrial would place [Gray] again in jeopardy
 20 and this is expressly prohibited by the Constitution."); United States v. Cavanaugh, 948 F.2d 405,
 21 416 (8th Cir. 1991) (abandonment of charged theory in favor of another theory that is later found
 22 insufficient to support conviction bars retrial on abandoned theory).

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 25 ³ Because Volpe was vacated on stipulation of the parties, Mr. Salinas recognizes that it lacks
 26 the persuasive value of an opinion that could have been subjected to appellate review. However, the
 facts and analysis are nonetheless instructive here.

1 The Court should find that the present Indictment has been impliedly abandoned. Dismissal
 2 is the appropriate remedy because the government has severely undermined Mr. Salinas' right to be
 3 informed of the charges against him, his right to present a defense, his right to due process, and his
 4 right to locate and call witnesses in his own defense, and has placed Mr. Salinas in an impossible
 5 position only three months before trial. He has spent nearly 18 months investigating a particular set
 6 of facts alleged in the indictment. In written briefing, he has identified numerous deficiencies in the
 7 government's proof. In response, the government no longer intends to prosecute Mr. Salinas on the
 8 basis of the allegations that he investigated.⁴ The government has significantly altered the nature of
 9 the proof that it intends to present by identifying new individuals who were allegedly involved, new
 10 financial transactions, and new communications as the basis for its case.

11 Mr. Salinas should not be required to continue preparing for trial based on allegations in an
 12 indictment that the government no longer intends to pursue. Nor should he be required to prepare
 13 for trial based on new, unindicted allegations made at this late stage, which have not been presented
 14 to a grand jury or set forth in an indictment, and which are vague in the extreme. Indeed, the
 15 government's late-breaking change in theories does not even allow Mr. Salinas sufficient time to file
 16 this motion within the time period required by the local rules. Nor will he have adequate time to
 17 prepare or file other pretrial motions regarding the new theories, such as a bill of particulars and a
 18 second motion for Rule 15 depositions, if necessary.

19 In the alternative, the Court should enter a pretrial order limiting the government to the
 20 allegations set forth in the Indictment, and should strike any witnesses, testimony, documents, or
 21

22 ⁴ The Court may get a sense of the potential prejudice to Mr. Salinas arising from the
 23 government's tactics by reviewing the government's opposition to Rule 15 depositions in this case.
 24 In that briefing, the government relied heavily on the new factual allegations regarding the "usurious
 25 loan" theory to argue against the materiality of the depositions, on grounds that those facts would
 26 "place the materiality of the defendants' deposition requests in context." Gov. Opp. to Rule 15
 Depositions at 2. The government thus sought to obtain the upper hand in the Rule 15 litigation by
 attempting to force Mr. Salinas to respond to new factual allegations, not present in the indictment,
 about which he had only recently received discovery, and which he had only begun to investigate.

1 other evidence pertaining to any theory or fact not set forth in the Indictment.

2 **III.**

3 **CONCLUSION**

4 For the foregoing reasons, and under the Fifth Amendment, the Court must preclude the
5 government from presenting theories and evidence at trial that have not been presented to the grand
6 jury and are not set forth in the Indictment. The Court should also dismiss the Indictment on
7 grounds of abandonment by the government and failure to state an offense.

8 Dated:

9 Respectfully submitted,

10 STEVEN KALAR
11 Federal Public Defender

12 /s/

13 ROBERT CARLIN
14 Assistant Federal Public Defender